



KENYA

KENYA YOUTH EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS PROGRAM (K-YES)

The majority of Kenya's population is under the age of 17 and struggling to find meaningful employment. This untapped demographic dividend of young Kenyans moving into their productive working years presents public and private sector stakeholders with both a challenge and an opportunity.

USAID's K-YES activity gives motivated but disenfranchised youth the skills and support they need to compete and succeed in the workplace. The activity connects young Kenyans to youth-friendly services (e.g., labor market information, financial institutions, and 21st century employability skills), allowing them to make informed and empowered decisions about their careers. With skills and vocational training designed in coordination with local industry, K-YES focuses on building local relationships and capacity to increase the efficiency, effectiveness, and sustainability of education and employment outcomes.

OUR WORK

K-YES fosters partnerships between young people and the private sector to design and develop mutually beneficial vocational training for increased economic competitiveness and better jobs. The activity offers a fast-track to employment for youth (ages 18-35) who do not have a high school diploma. K-YES program objectives include:

- Improved technical and vocational skills training
- Targeted opportunities for entrepreneurship
- Increased access to financial services, labor market information and career guidance
- Gender equitable approaches to employment
- Sustainability through partnership

ACHIEVEMENTS

Since 2015, K-YES has:

- Offered more than 146,000 youth access to youth-friendly financial services, market-relevant job and business skills, up-to-date labor market information and youth mentorship networks
- Supported more than 18,900 youth to gain new or better employment
- Established 78 new public-private partnerships in key sectors, increasing value for both youth employment outcomes and businesses

BUDGET \$21.9 million

DURATION

2015 - 2020

ACTIVITY LOCATIONS: Bungoma, Garissa, Kericho, Kisii, Kwale, Migori, Nairobi, Nyeri, and West Pokot counties in Kenya

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

RTI International

KEY PARTNERS

International Rescue Committee
Land O'Lakes International
McKinsey & Company
Mobile Accord
National Youth Bunge Association
SSG Advisor

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